

# DORDT *diamond*



Rev. Trulear speaks to the Dordt masses during Convocation on January 13 while President Carl Zylstra, Pastor Cliff Bajema, Board President Cal Hoogendoorn, Junior Sara Gerritsma and Marshall Ed Geels listen attentively.

Elbert Bakker

## Dr. Trulear speaks at convocation

### Dordt starts off the Spring 2005 semester with a challenge

**Jessica Brauschweig**  
Assistant Editor

Last Thursday proved cold and miserable for all who were facing the frigid temperatures on their way to and from classes and work; yet for those present at the morning's fourth Jubilee convocation, a blazing fire could be found inside the B.J. Haan that warmed bodies and souls alike. The source? Rev. Dr. Harold Trulear and his powerful, passionate message of "Educated and Exiled: The Future of Christian Leadership in America."

Trulear was impressive notably because of his resume, which includes a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College and a Master's of Philosophy and a Ph.D from Drew University. Currently, Trulear is the senior pastor at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in

Twin Oaks, Penn.

A renowned writer, he immediately captured the audience's attention with his opening witty remark: "As J-Lo said to one of her husbands, 'I won't keep you long.'"

Yet in a short amount of time, Trulear went beyond the basics to challenge listeners to a national call for humility--"the order of the day."

Amid keeping a humorous tone to his words, there was no denying the seriousness and significance of his message and the applicability of it in today's culture. For too often, the church is more concerned with winning than remaining faithful.

Trulear briefly outlined the history of the chosen Israel, emphasizing that when Israel "lost sight of their past as slaves, they lost

**"As J-Lo said to one of her husbands, 'I won't keep you long.'"**

humility while still engaging society. Trulear confronted the audience with the need to adapt the exile as a model for ministry today.

Drawing comparisons from Daniel, he stressed the fact that if you are a true evangelical believer, then you don't belong in this world. And as God has called each person to a unique vocation, one must not forget their place in the world before God and their relationship with Him.

Trulear put forth the challenge that all evangelical institutions must be accountable and self-critical, as focusing on spiritual growth is essential and a large part of the

sight of the truth." Thus, the exile proved crucial to the Israelites; for there, they had to exercise

much-needed social transformation.

As these days are continuously filled with unexplainable events and catastrophes, more and more people--newspersons and commentators alike--are trying to explain and comprehend the workings of God. Yet it is only because our Sovereign God is watching over us today that hope still exists.

Like the unexplainable hand that wrote on the wall which took place in the book of Daniel so many years ago, we too must fall down and worship that same hand today--"for it always has the last word." Trulear's words hold great worth for Dordt College, which as an institution of leadership must constantly remain humbled and faithful to God and His plans for our future.

The next Convocation is planned for March 8.

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A thousand points in a season? No Way. a thousand points in a career? Sure, why not...  
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## Out and About

**Jill Hiemstra**  
Staff Writer

### Mouthwash Overdose

A woman from Adrian, Mich., was arrested for a DUI, not for intoxication of alcohol, but Listerine mouthwash. Her blood-alcohol level was more than three times the legal limit, and the woman first showed signs of intoxication after her car rear-ended another vehicle Sunday. She told police she had not consumed any alcohol, but open containers of mouthwash were found in her vehicle, and she confessed to downing three glasses earlier in the day.

### One Big Headache

Patrick Lawler of Littleton, Colo., visited his dentist one afternoon with what he thought was a toothache. Instead, the doctor found a four-inch nail the construction worker had unknowingly embedded in his skull six days earlier. A nail gun had backfired on Lawler, 23, while he was working in the ski resort town of Breckenridge. The tool sent a nail into a piece of wood nearby, but also fired a second nail back through Lawler's mouth. Despite hospital bills between \$80,000 and \$100,000, he is in good spirits.

### A New Delicacy?

Police in Vestal, N.Y., are investigating an incident in which students placed a piece of sheep brain in a salad dressing container at their high school cafeteria. Students had consumed the dressing before the brain was found by another student, but preservatives used for the brain were not harmful to anyone and so far no one has become ill from them. The brain was apparently used in dissection in the high school's anatomy class. Police are looking into the incident.



20 January 2005

### A Spectrum of Possibilities

**Nate Nykamp**  
Assistant  
News Editor



Nate Nykamp  
**Manuela Ayee,**  
Spectrum Club  
President

We have a problem. On any given day, we see an overwhelming majority of Dutch CRC kids, primarily from the Midwest. We are so saturated that we forget about the diversity that is present (believe it or not) at Dordt. According to [dordt.edu](http://dordt.edu) the students at Dordt "come from over 25 states, 6 Canadian provinces and 15 other

countries."

The Spectrum Club exists for that purpose--to help the students better interact with each other, and to allow different cultures to mix. "Diversity is a really beautiful thing" says club president Manuela Ayee.

She stresses that the club is open to all, not only international students. If you are interested in participating in a Spectrum event, or even if you simply want to know more, Manuela can be reached at [mnly@dordt.edu](mailto:mnly@dordt.edu).

### Juggling Life and Leisure

**Nate Nykamp**  
Assistant  
News Editor



Nate Nykamp  
**Torray Wilson and David Kreykes go at it**

Let's be honest, some clubs at Dordt are straight-faced and serious. The Juggling Club, however, is definitely not one of them.

Torray Wilson and David Kreykes agree that the Juggling club exists simply for the fun of it. They use the club as a forum to better understand the art of juggling.

Wilson said that the club is interested in anyone with any interest in juggling. The club is very casual; people can come and join

anytime, though there is no better time than now.

Fun Fact: Juggling is proven to increase the grey matter in your brain, increasing your hand-eye coordination.

If you are interested in joining the jugglers, contact Torray Wilson at x6616 or [trrywlsn@dordt.edu](mailto:trrywlsn@dordt.edu).

### WANTED:

Writers, copy editors, layout designers, and various other pizza-eating personell to help with the production of *The Diamond*. If interested, contact Andrea Dykshoorn or e-mail us at:

[diamond@dordt.edu](mailto:diamond@dordt.edu)

## Omaha Chamber Singers to perform at the BJ Haan

**Kimberly Lucier**  
Staff Writer

The Omaha Chamber Singers (OCS), a choral-based collection of talented individuals, will perform at the B.J. Hann Auditorium on Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. The Dordt College Music Department is sponsoring the concert, which is free and open to the public.

The OCS is well-known for presenting exquisite choral literature from various time periods. In fact, the OCS was originally established for a single concert that took place during the summer of 1999. Nevertheless, the 24 members decided to continue offering future performances. Some even travel an hour each way to attend the rehearsals and performances.

"[The OCS] is a very fine

ensemble. The members sing great literature and do it really well," said Associate Professor of Music Ben Kornelis.

The group is composed of the most refined singers from the Omaha locale. A majority of the singers have academic degrees in music and are employed in diverse musical fields.

One year following the terrorist attacks, the OCS, along with the Omaha Symphony Chamber Orchestra (OSCO), participated in the worldwide "Rolling Requiem" project, which commemorated those who were lost and those that helped individuals on Sept. 11. Mozart's "Requiem" was performed in every time zone at the precise moment of the initial World Trade Center attack. An overflow crowd attended the performance by the OCS and OSCO at the Saint Cecilia Cathedral.

Thus far in the 2004/2005 season, the OCS has been involved in concerts held at the St. Cecilia Cathedral and the Orpheum Theater. At times, the OCS collaborates with other chorale or orchestra ensembles. On Jan. 28, at the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, the OCS will hold a show titled "Choral Connections."

"The group has very energetic performances. The OCS is small enough that every individual voice contributes to the performances and the group is large enough that the sound is full," Dr. Kornelis said.

The upcoming Sioux Center program involves music by composers William Byrd, Johannes Brahms, Pavel Chesnokov, Earl George, Michael Hennagin, Stephen Leek, Randy Stonehill, Randall Stroope, Jan Sweelinck, Randall Thompson and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

## Kennedy lecture honors work, life of Albert Einstein

**Joe Eggebeen**  
News Editor

celebrates the 100th anniversary of three of Einstein's greatest discoveries: the photoelectric effect, the Brownian motion of particles, and the theory of relativity, of which comes the equation  $E=mc^2$ .

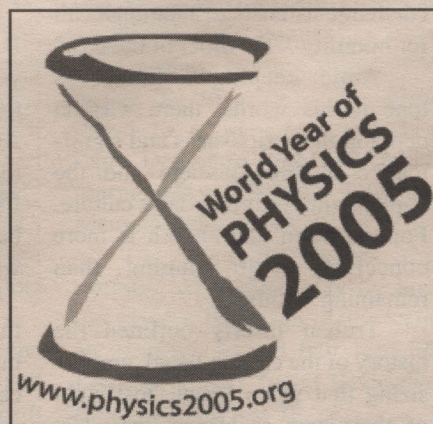
This lecture is only the beginning of a full year of celebration about physics. Said Physics Professor John Zwart, "The US Congress, the UN, and other national and international organizations have declared 2005 a year of physics."

Other possible events at Dordt include a tour of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Chicago as well as a visit by Dr. Gerald Gabrielse, a leading researcher in the field of anti-matter.

Said Dr. Arnold Sikkema, associate physics professor,

"This should help an appreciation for physics to develop, both around the world as well as here at Dordt."

More information about the World Year of Physics celebrations as well as at Dordt is available by going to [physics2005.org](http://physics2005.org) or from Dr. Sikkema's webpage, which can be located through a link on the DENIS homepage.



Dordt College is hosting a lecture on the life and work of Dr. Albert Einstein, TIME Magazine's Person of the Century, given by Dr. Robert Kennedy. The talk is scheduled for January 31 at 7 pm in S101.

The speech will discuss the scientific work of Einstein, including thermodynamics and statistical mechanics, but for the nonscientists in attendance, the life and philosophy of Einstein is the main point. In short, the whole Einstein will be discussed, from his resistance to Nazi Germany to his outspoken support of his Jewish heritage in the Zionist Movement to his involvement with the Manhattan Project, which developed the atomic bombs dropped in World War II.

The speaker, Dr. Kennedy, a physics professor at Creighton University in Omaha, has been studying Einstein for much of his career. The lecture is held to commemorate the World Year of Physics 2005, which

### Fast Forward

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**Jill Hiemstra**  
Staff Writer

#### Blades take to the ice

The Dordt Blades will be skating in back-to-back games at Iowa State University on January 21 and 22. On January 28 and 29, the Blades host Carlton College at the All Seasons Center. The puck drops at 8:30. Carrying a winning streak of 11 games, the Blades sit atop their league with a record of 12 wins and 3 losses.

#### Defenders taking the game home

Upcoming Defender basketball home games for men and women include Doane on January 29 and Northwestern on February 2. In the meantime, the teams will travel to Hastings on January 22 and Mount Marty on January 26. The men are currently 12 and 4, while the women are 6 and 11.

#### TX Tryouts coming up

Got a talent that you think needs showing off? SAC's annual Talent Extravaganza tryouts are coming up on February 1 and 2. The deadline for tryout applications is January 28. See the SAC board by Student Services or <http://denis.dordt.edu/sac/> for more information.



20 January 2005

# DIAMOND Opinion

## What Did I Get Myself Into? Ice Ice Baby



Bud Dykshoorn

**Andrea Dykshoorn**  
Editor

*"I am not the editor of a newspaper and shall always do right and be good so that God will not make me one." ~ Mark Twain*

Never, EVER, did I imagine I would wind up here.

It all started a year and a half

ago at the Taste of Sioux Center. Having made the rounds past every table that offered free cookies, candies, and contests, I was ready to take the loot back to my room. As I made my way to the door, I passed by the club display tables, where people were encouraging students to participate in everything from juggling to flying.

Why did I stop at that booth? They didn't even have anything to give away! I don't remember who was sitting behind that table. But I do remember that something about the Diamond display caught my attention. I had never before worked on a student publication, and I was curious. Still, I was somewhat disinterested in joining a club that looked more like home-work than fun.

"Why don't you write down

your e-mail address, just in case?" asked the voice from behind the table. And for some odd reason, I did. With the lure of free pizza every other week and a credit per semester if I decided to write, I figured that I'd try the whole journalism thing. After all, how hard could it be?

**"I figured that I'd try the whole journalism thing. After all, how hard could it be?"**

For the next three semesters, I found myself writing for the sports section. A few articles stirred up controversy, but for the most part they were quite unmemorable. So

it came as a complete shock when Dr. Van Gilst, our faculty sponsor, approached me this fall and offered a "promotion" to editor of the Diamond.

Once again, I don't know how it happened. But for some reason, I said yes.

Oops.

I have now realized that this "promotion" involves living in the library, constant e-mailing, searching for story ideas, more e-mailing, fighting with Mac computers, even more e-mailing... you get the picture.

This semester will be a learning experience, both for me and for the rest of the staff. But along with all of the work, there is also the satisfying feeling of finishing a new layout design, and holding the completed product in your hands...

## Ice Ice Baby

**Sarah Meyers**  
Opinion Editor

It hasn't exactly reached epidemic proportions, but several people have complained to me about falling on the ice that now at least partially covers all the sidewalks on campus. From broken limbs to bruises to wounded egos, the casualties seem to be mounting. But is there really a reason to panic and grumble?

First of all, one needs to remember a key fact about Iowa: ice happens. In the 19 winters I've spent here, I can't remember a single one that did not involve an ice storm or massive amounts of melting snow that suddenly froze over. Protesting the ice that comes every winter won't do much good in the long run.

Secondly, no one can tell me there is not enough gravel on the main sidewalks. There were nights last week when I had to bang out my shoes over my trash can for at least a minute to get most of the sand out. As for the salt, I've heard that maintenance cannot put any on the new sidewalks for a year so they won't get ruined. Think of the extra cost to the students if Dordt had to rip up its new sidewalks every few years.

Finally, all the salt and gravel in the world can't top this solution: caution. Observe the Iowans, Minnesotans and Canadians as they easily dodge trouble spots and nonchalantly walk on snow to avoid the ice. Watch as they take a running start onto a large patch of ice and gleefully skid across it. Take note on how they do not fear the ice; rather, they simply walk on it if they have to.

I do not mean to trivialize the wounded limbs and egos, but a little bit of prevention can go a long way.

## Defrosting the Fishbowl

**Josh De Groot**  
Guest Writer

After a holiday of horrific images from Asia, it seems strangely quiet under the gauze of old Dordt snow. As we enter 2005, I hope that some of you will put down the Halo II controller and take a deeper look at life. Calling and Culture (GEN: 100, 200 and

300), are not merely titles for classes that allow us to graduate from the fishbowl, but rather are spaces where we can better learn who we are meant to be.

Take time this semester to watch some good foreign films (you may have to read them). Meet some people from different countries (open your eyes; they are around). And try, if possible, to

better understand the wonder that it is to be a white American, a gift that comes with a hefty price tag, not just paid on battle fields but in Wal Mart factories and banana plantations around the globe.

Dear God, smite us with an awakening to the world that rivals the meeting of our Sioux brothers and sisters with the first of the pale faces upon

these plains.

As some of you prepare for the last semester here make an effort to enrich your lives and build a culture that will help you move out into rest of the world and set the stage for the next jubilee. A Happy New Year and a blessed Martin Luther King Jr. day and Jubilee to all of us.

## So Long Singlehood!



Is this the real JJ Reed or an imposter?

**J.J. Reed**

Advice columnist

Dear JJ Reed,

I am a sophomore female here at Dordt and as ashamed as I am to admit it, I am still single. I've tried everything but nothing I do seems to attract male attention. Please help me.

~Companionless in Covenant

Dear "Companionless," There are a number of Dordt women out there just as desolate as you. Just ask "Solitary in

Southview", or "Withdrawn in West Hall". Luckily, there are some functional women out there too, and one of them agreed to help me out with this article! So for all you single females out there, here it is:

**"Engaged in East Hall's" 5 Simple Steps to Making Him Yours!"**

1. Be sure to laugh at all his jokes, even if they're not funny.
2. Never ever disagree with him. Remember; naysayers become spinsters, yeswomen become wives.
3. Ditch those dorky glasses in favour of some coloured contacts! Men like women who look pretty, not dowdy!
4. Try lowering your standards. Don't forget-God loves everybody equally.
5. Studying for next week's test already?! Get out there and flirt, flirt, flirt! Once you snag a man you'll never need school again.

**Dordt Students!**  
Join us for **Electrifying Basketball**  
AT THE

**Sioux County**  
**Power Slam**

Wednesday, February 2, 2005  
6:00 and 8:00 p.m.



**Dordt College Defenders**

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Sioux Food Pantry Collection!

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## AMOR : Dominican Republic

**Rosie Grantham**  
Staff Writer

On 27 December 2004, 12 Dordt kids flew south of Omaha, past Mexico, over the ocean of shiny blue water, and arrived in the Dominican Republic. We didn't really know what to expect when we stepped off that small plane, only that we were there to work and hopefully learn something about the culture while we were at it.

We worked alongside other Dominican natives to help build a school in a little town outside of Santo Domingo called La Pared. We could not speak much Spanish, and they could not speak much English, but through patience and "sign language," we were able to make friends despite the language barrier.-- Levi, the pastor of a nearby church, showed us how to bend rebar and taught us how to say "dog" in Creole: "chien." Andreas, a retired pastor, never even tried to make us understand his Spanish: instead just he just spoke to us and pointed, saying "Mirra!" (Look!), showing us what to do.

The missionary who headed up our project was Paul Bartels, who was connected

with wwcs.org, an organization that concentrates on building schools in developing countries. Paul directed the project and was also in charge of all the groups that would be coming down to help with construction on the school and various other projects. Paul directed our work at the construction site, but he also urged us to get to know the community we were building in as well. So when there wasn't any work for us to do, we talked with the local people. Two of our team members played baseball with Dominican kids for a couple of hours, and one girl even invited us over to her house, and had her brother cut down some coconuts from her tree for us to enjoy.

We enjoyed getting to know the community a bit, but still felt guilty for not working every hour that we were there. But Paul told us that although we were tangibly helping while building the school, the money that each of us had fundraised helped pay the wages of the Dominican workers. Our friend Che-Che, a Spanish-speaking Dominican who lived at the ministry center, worked hard with us every day, most of the time mixing cement with a shovel by hand. He told us "I



Children from the batay, fascinated by the visitors, crowd around and call for photos.

Sara Prins

want to work!" in English. Che-Che has a family that lives about four hours away from the ministry center, and he lives at the center because that is where he can find work. Before Christmas, Che-Che was waiting at the ministry center for the next group of Americans to come work and bring the money that would pay his wages. Che-Che has a wife and four children. He sometimes is able to see them once a month.

In the Republica Dominicana, the people have a saying: "If Dominicans did not have hope and optimism, they would have nothing." And although we saw many smiles among the people, we also saw how terrible the poverty of the country is. Paul drove us through a barrio, a slum in Santo Domingo one day. The whole settlement stank of urine and filth, yet there were Dominicans going about their everyday business. That

Sunday Paul also took us to a batay, which was a place originally intended only to house the Haitians who would come to cut the sugarcane. Over time they evolved in to little communities of tiny shacks with corrugated tin roofs. When we went to the batay, the children came running to meet us, so excited to see Americans, white people. They flocked around us, saying "Una foto, una foto!" So we took pictures of them, and they took pictures with our cameras. An older woman invited us to come further into the community, asking us to come to a birthday party. So we went, and held the little ones that crawled into our laps, and bounced them on our knees to the throbbing pulse of blaring meringue music.

When we came back to the states we were relieved to be back on familiar grounds again, but a bit sad as well. We did leave behind a blue ocean and warmer temperatures, but we also left our friends as well. None of us really know when we'll see Levi, Che-Che, Andreas and the rest again. But in the meantime, we can rest assured that we'll see them all again on the day our Savior appoints. In the meantime, the school will be finished and God will use it to educate hundreds of little Dominican children.



Dordt team with guide Paul (Pablo) and locals at siesta break, looking over the plan for the afternoon's work.

Sara Prins



20 January 2005

# features

## DIAMOND

## Dordt hires new staff

**Rachel Wielenga**  
Staff Writer

Gearing up for the new season, Dordt recently filled two positions with two new faces this Spring.

The position of Campus Center Welcome Desk Attendant has been filled by Jill Jacobsma of Orange City. A Rock Valley Native, Jacobsma grew up with the idea that she would attend Dordt after graduating from Western Christian High School. After one year at Dordt, she transferred to Northwestern to be with her husband, Mike, who is now a lawyer and also the Political Studies Assistant Adjunct at Dordt. While attending Northwestern, Jacobsma worked at the school's

switchboard and career development center. She graduated from Northwestern with her BA in Business Administrations/ Management. After eight years of working for Med-Tec, she has decided to come back to Dordt.

She and her family are excited about her new position. With three active children and a busy husband, the new position at



Jill Jacobsma Dordt

Dordt works well with her family's hectic schedule and is also something she will enjoy doing. She looks forward to working with the students and working in a Christ-based environment.

Cindy Nederhoff, currently an employee of Dordt College, has taken the job of KDCR Coordinator for Financial Support. Nederhoff has filled in for various campus positions, and is currently the theatre arts secretary. She has previously helped organize and raise funds for KDCR radio auctions. The new position at KDCR involves seeking financial support. Nederhoff will look for sources of funding and will coordinate the live On-Air Auctions. She looks forward to the

challenge of trying something new and building from the ground up.

Cindy is a Dordt graduate, a Sioux Center resident, and is married to staff member Arlan Nederhoff, vice-president of business affairs.

She is also the daughter of one of the original faculty members and continues to be an asset to the community.



Cindy Nederhoff Dordt

## A crushing blow

**Nate Gibson**  
Staff Writer

It was the stupidest thing I could possibly do, I thought. The sickening crunch of metal tearing into metal shattered the euphoria that only a new driver's license can give.

I'd had my license for two months, and like any exuberant 16 year old, I felt invincible. My Mazda 929 was an impregnable fortress. So, naturally, on a bright September afternoon in Lynden, Washington, when I least expected it, my confidence would come crashing down.

I remember it well. Extensive road work cluttered up each street in Lynden. Bulldozers and backhoes roamed free. I was backing out of a driveway when I zealously gunned the gas pedal. A split second later, I heard the deafening crunch and saw my trunk, mangled beyond recognition, standing high above where it should have been. I had backed into a bulldozer. Or had IT backed into me? That had to be it. It couldn't be MY fault. Or maybe my brakes were faulty. Hadn't I slammed the brakes in the nick of time, only to discover that they didn't work? No, there was no escape from my guilt. Loudly, I swore. Then I

swore again, and again, and couple dozen more times before my brother told me to

**When I least expected it, my confidence would come crashing down.**

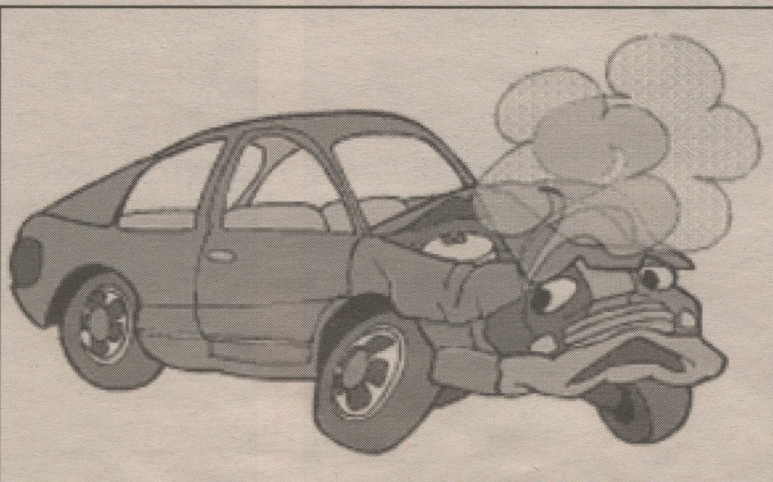
stop.

Finally, I worked up the nerve to get out of the car and survey the damages. The back half crudely resembled a crushed pop can. The guy driving the bulldozer (which came out unscathed, by the way) spotted me standing there. When he saw what I was looking at, he got out right away. "I thought I felt something bump into me," he said, obviously trying to bring some humor into the grim scenario. After giving me his card, he climbed back into that demon-

ic bulldozer and rolled merrily away.

Then came the part I dreaded the most: calling my dad. He'd bought the Mazda for himself, but when I got my license (100's on both tests, might I add), my dad figured he could take the risk and let me drive it. I left a message on his work phone, and awaited that painful, incriminating call. Suddenly the phone rang, breaking the sickly silence. I reached shakily for the receiver, only able to morbidly guess at the terrors that were yet to come.

Everything turned out fine, of course. My dad wasn't happy, but the Mazda got fixed, and everything was back to normal. . . . at least until the next four times I would screw up behind the wheel.



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**\*\*Opinions expressed** are not necessarily the view of *The Diamond* or of Dordt College, but represent the views of the individual writers.

**\*\*Any signed letters** comments, or opinions are welcome. Contributions must be received at least one week in advance. *The Diamond* reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

Send contributions to [diamond@dordt.edu](mailto:diamond@dordt.edu) or

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## Sabbatical Produces Angelic Work

**Sara Prins  
Staff Writer**

On the evening of January 13, friends, family and students of Professor Jacob Van Wyk gathered in the gallery of the Campus Center to celebrate a successful art show and all of the thought and work put into it.

The seed of the show was three years ago, when Van Wyk started applying for a sabbatical leave. He then underwent the process of applying and working through a proposal as to how he would spend the spring semester of 2004.

He began last year with 42 newly made canvas stretchers, intending to work primarily in painting. This was a skill that Van Wyk had worked on over 15 years ago, and he wanted to reacquire himself with it. He would put at least six hours per day into actual art making, most often beginning at 5:00am. On top of actual art making, time was spent in research, sketching, and traveling.

Van Wyk wanted to work with themes that he had worked with before. He began painting the Hibiscus flowers to reacquire himself with the media of oil paints, and then launched into his landscapes and angel eyes series. Angel eyes began 25 years ago as a way to depict spiritual life—they just came into being during Van Wyk's process, and he was intrigued. As he investigated he became aware of the possibilities. Van Wyk says, "They became a way to think about how as humans we can function, and think about life through angelic beings and spiritual power." He does not want to overanalyze them, as some would like him to do.

Van Wyk says that the artist poses unanswered questions. The second half of the artistic process is the viewer, so the viewer should be provoked by the artwork and try to answer some of these questions.

Van Wyk receded from painting to take up ceramics, which has always been a strength of his; he says that clay is a physical extension of himself. Sculpture worked well

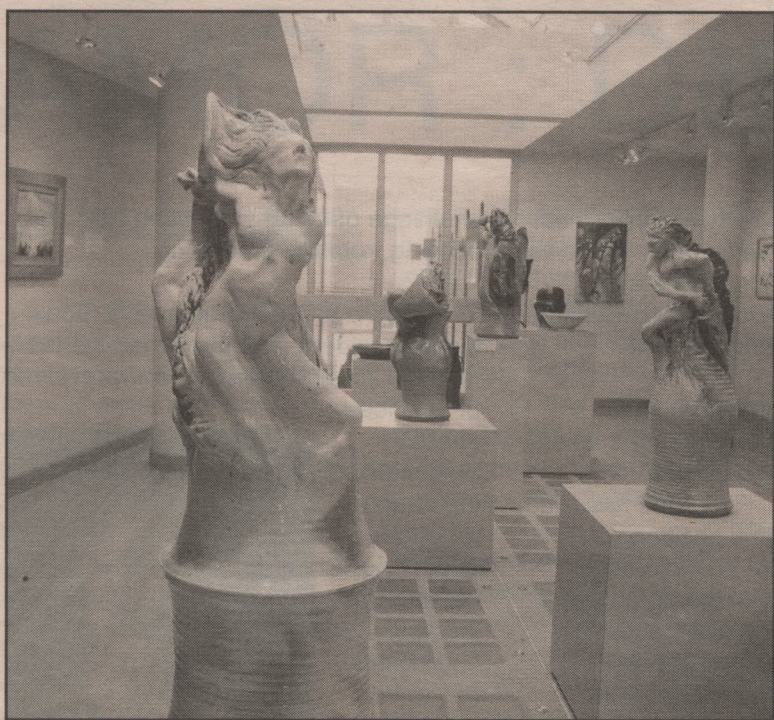
and so he stuck with it, now sculpting more than painting, spending 30-40 hours on each piece. His sculptures have column-like bases, reflecting the emphasis of classical ideals. They are capped with figurative forms, which Van Wyk uses as a metaphor for spiritual and emotional struggle.

In creating art, Van Wyk says, you maintain a dialogue with your work. He often does go into a piece with more than a concept, but discovers what he is doing in the process of making a work of art. The artwork can speak, and so the artist must listen to it, nurture it, and give it life. He is only a catalyst, and because he becomes only a part of the process in the work of art, his pieces have achieved a transcendental quality. Van Wyk claims responsibility for the works, even though he admits that the pieces often took control of him. Some of the challenges he faced in the process were to find the right balance between freedom and control, recognizable and abstract, experience and experimentation.

Concerning his show, Van Wyk said, "Throughout almost a year of working I knew I had some good things; it felt like solid, consistent, relating work. But until it was assembled in gallery context I was never quite sure how strong the work was. It was a bit of a relief."

Professor Versluis, who arranged and hung the show, wrote in his curator's statement, "My advice when viewing this unique show is not to read 'just the content' but to also see the form, the design of each piece. In doing so perhaps you'll discover that each piece displays Van Wyk's energy and style coupled with a classical, graceful and delightful sense of design."

Professor Van Wyk says that there is something in the show for everyone. He hopes that thought and depth can be obtained, that themes of celebrating life and being created in God's aesthetic dimension can be seen. And, if nothing else, one can admire his sensitivity towards line, shape and color, which have come as a result of many years of



There is an array of sculptures, paintings and prints in the show

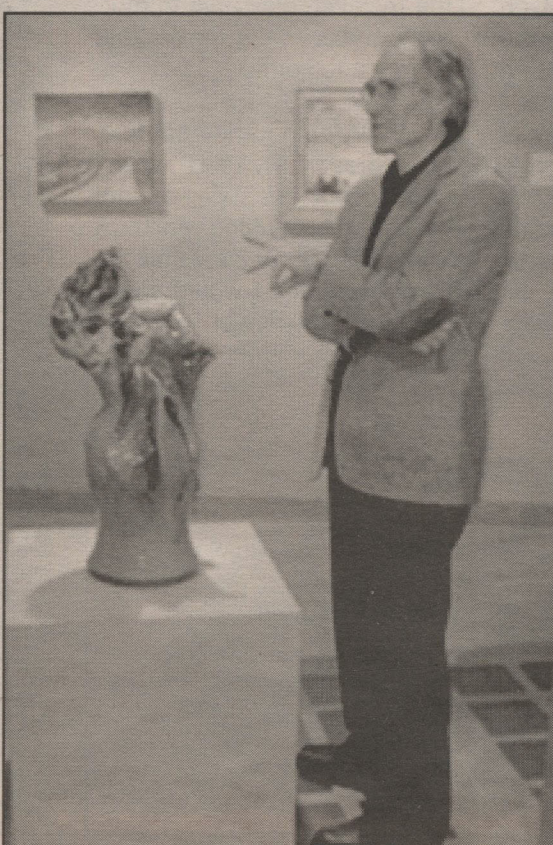


The crowd converses after the show.

*Photos by Elbert Bakker*



"Submission"



Van Wyk explains his process.



"Avenging Angel"



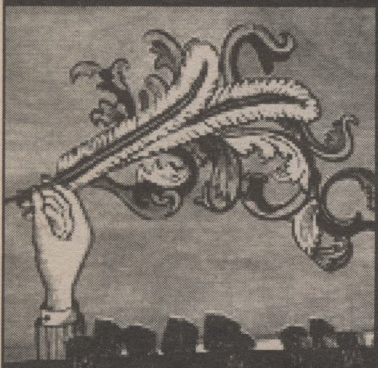
20 January 2004



# My Top 10 Albums of 2004

## The Year in Review by Guest Writer Ross Fiekkema

"Where do you hear about all these bands?" is a question I hear often. Usually, my answer is, "The internet." People today listen to more music than ever thanks to internet message boards, e-zines, and file sharing, etc. Music is everywhere. For various reasons, it is difficult to find a variety of good music on either radio or television. I'm not one of those people who condemns anything on the radio or MTV as being terrible just because it's mainstream. However, I do strongly feel that most of what is fed to us on radio and television falls short of being compelling, original, or even intelligent for that matter. So if you're frustrated with the poor quality of music offered to you, I encourage you to check out some of the artists I've listed here. By looking into them, you can easily find links to literally hundreds of other good artists of many different styles. Keep in mind that this list is my opinion, and of course I could not listen to every album released in 2004. But of all the albums I know of, heard about, and eventually felt were worthy of purchasing, these are the best.



### 1. The Arcade Fire

**Funeral:** This album begins in adolescent kids longing to grow up and start their own lives while parents argue or mourn the death of loved ones in the bedroom. We see kids searching through a cold, desolate city for meaning in life after the death of parents whom they can't find the ability to cry for. And then there is adulthood, suppressed tears, a longing to return to the securities of youth. Funeral reveals itself more with repeated listening, becoming more painful, powerful, and yet uplifting each time. If the album doesn't convince you, their live show will -- motorcycle helmets, accordions, steel drums and all.



### 2. The Fiery Furnaces

**Blueberry Boat:** There is a sizable part of me that wants to put this at number one. In the end, it loses out due to its ability to divide. Some love it, some hate it-and with ten minute song lengths and a full running time of seventy-six minutes, it's not exactly accessible. But how can someone resist an album that sounds like it came from the most creative couple of ADD stricken eight year olds on the planet? Most of the songs read (and play) like a child's fairy tale, only with three part structures and multiple layers of keyboards, electronic beats, guitars, and drums. It's rock opera for the fidgety type.

### 3. Sufjan Stevens

**Seven Swans:** Abandoning the more dense orchestration of Michigan, Stevens created a largely banjo-led folk album about his personal Christian Faith. Stevens is not considered a Christian artist in the traditional sense and he doesn't make specifically Christian albums, but this time he chose to do so and manages to avoid the preachy-ness that sometimes plagues Christian artists.



### 4. Joanna Newsom

**The Milk-Eyed Mender:** Another album highly capable of dividing. Here the obstacle is Newsom's shrill, child-like voice. I admit, I cringed at first; but by the third song I was charmed rather than startled by her voice, and fascinated by the complexities of her prose and smooth harp playing. Most songs are just vocals and a harp, with a handful led by keyboard or guitar.



### 5. The Futureheads

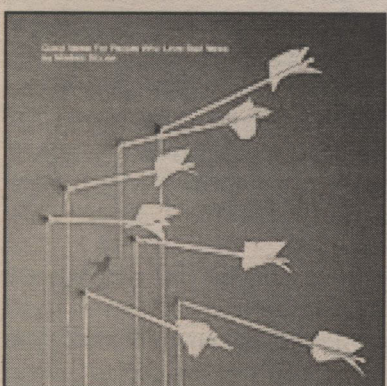
**The Futureheads:** Blistering through fifteen tracks in just thirty-five minutes, The Futureheads put jangly, 70's style punk guitar rifts over acapella vocal harmonies and melodies, creating one of the most fun and lively albums of the year. The rhythms are fast and the British vocals are sharp and catchy, sticking in your head long after you've stopped listening.



**\* lei-sure (n):** time during which somebody has no obligations or homework responsibilities, and therefore is free to engage in enjoyable activities.

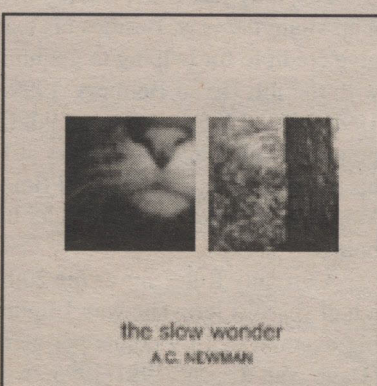
### 6. Modest Mouse - Good News For People Who Love Bad News

**Good News For People Who Love Bad News:** Modest Mouse broke into the mainstream this year, with what is quite possibly their weakest album, after working hard in the underground for more than ten years. Regardless, it's still one of the year's best, providing a bit more varied, if lighter, sound than their previous records. Front man Isaac Brock is a bit more straightforward in his writing, but still deals with topics such as life and death, God, and shrugging ("Float On").



### 7. A.C. Newman - The Slow Wonder

On his first solo album, A.C. Newman stays in the same area he was in with his regular band, he's just on a different road. Still making guitar/keyboard driven power pop, Newman provides with melody after melody of catchy, smart music that is both fun and moving. With topics ranging from guilt, innocence, rich kids, secret agents, and defeat, this album is a work of art from a great song writer and musician.



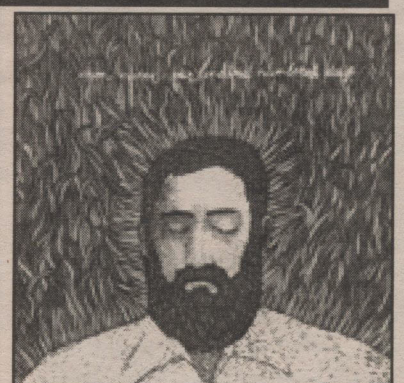
### 8. Interpol - Antics

One of the most anticipated albums of the year, Antics is just about everything one could hope for in the wake of Interpol's highly acclaimed debut, "Turn on the Bright Lights." More of a singles album than their debut, Antics is instantly more accessible and straightforward, if a bit less rewarding in the long run. This band is glaringly original in not only their music, but also their presence.



### 9. Air - Talkie Walkie: With Talkie Walkie

Air makes a mild evolution of their sound. There's nothing drastically new or surprising, just infectious, electronic pop music about girls and love being melodically whispered into your ear. The French duo teamed up with legendary Radiohead producer, Nigel Godrich, and gathered a slew of instruments, resulting in a lush, yet subtle record that keeps you happily humming all day.

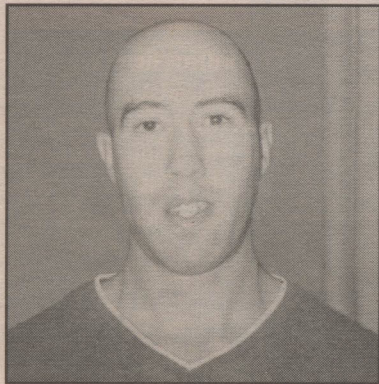


### 10. Iron and Wine - Our Endless Numbered Days

Similar to Talkie Walkie in its subtlety, Iron and Wine leader Sam Beam achieves his sound in a completely different way. The primary instruments are banjo and guitar, occasionally backed by other band members, and Iron and Wine's songs cover topics such as love, God, and the south. With a gentle folk sound, one can easily picture someone singing these songs from a porch in Georgia as they quietly weave into one's consciousness.



## Behind the Scenes:



Elbert Bakker

Schouten believes intramurals are a good way to stay active.

**Leslie Larson**  
Staff Writer

A week before each intramural season, Jeff Schouten--along with ten workstudy students--makes certain that rosters are correct and creates a master schedule for each sport. From there, he e-mails the captains of each team, finds officials (who are usually Dordt athletes of the respective sport), and secures the facilities.

When the season begins, Schouten begins to tally each team's win/loss record. One problem that arises as the season continues is conflicting player schedules. Schouten works around night classes and facility accessibility, which he says is a "give and take" process. The best time for intramurals has been from 9-12pm Monday through Thursday. There are four sports in each season, thereby allowing a different activity for each evening.

Schouten's favorite part about being intramural director is his ability to accommodate each player's needs. This gives him a feeling of service and satisfaction by helping the Dordt college community excel and become more active. Last year alone, intramural activities had a total of 900 participants.

Everyone is encouraged to come out either to play or watch. Intramurals are a great way to socialize and meet new people while playing a competitive sport.

# Dordt Defender Basketball Players take to Hardcourt

**Jesse Veenstra**  
Staff Writer

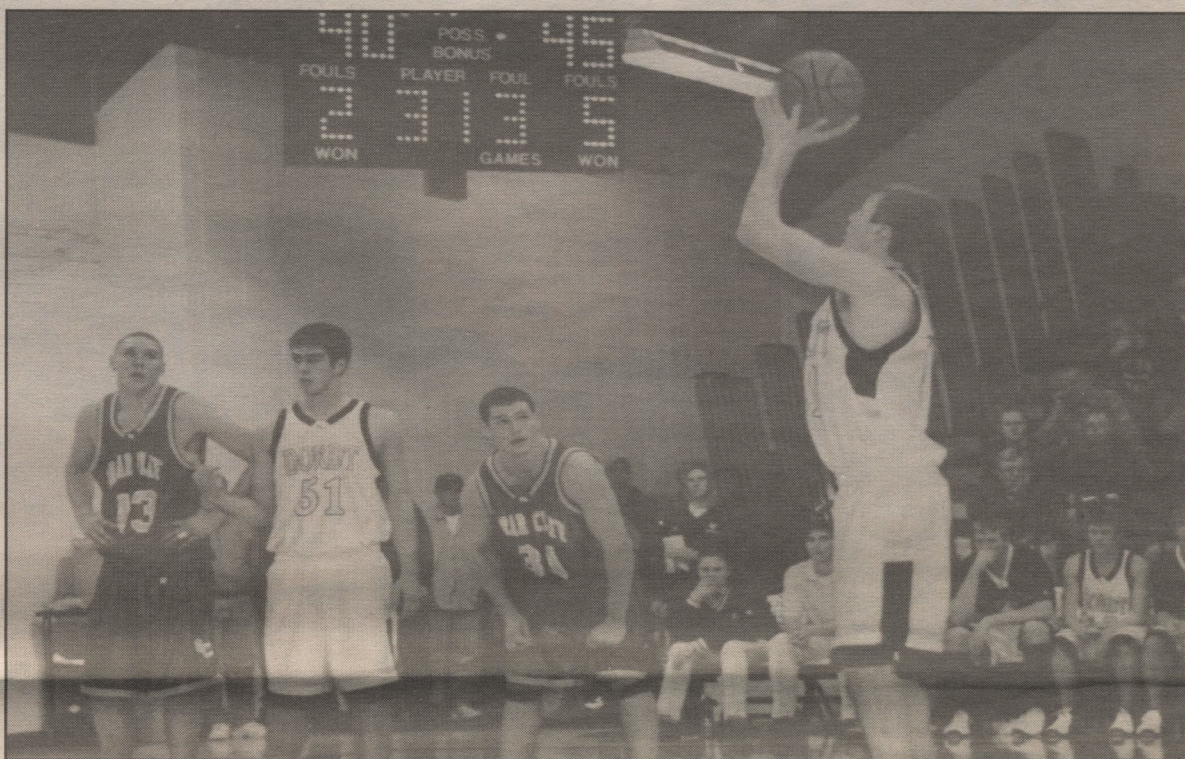
While students were home over Christmas break, the Dordt Defender basketball teams were busy battling opponents on the hardcourt. Both the men and the women played numerous games over the long Christmas break.

The men's team started off the break by hosting the Dordt Classic and playing North Central University. The Defenders jumped out to a blazing 12-0 start and cruised to a 106-85 victory. The following night Dordt finished off the Classic by facing off against Dakota State. Dordt jumped out to a twenty-point halftime lead and won easily 88-66.

The next game opened the second half of conference play as Dordt hosted Dakota Wesleyan. Dordt trailed at halftime, but used a 25-2 run to record another conference victory. Two nights later Dordt traveled to Concordia to face the leaders of the GPAC conference. The Defenders trailed by three at halftime, but couldn't keep the deficit smaller than four for the rest of the game, and lost 85-77.

The losing streak ran to two as Briar Cliff traveled to Sioux Center just after classes had resumed. The game was a struggle for both teams, but Briar Cliff won 64-58. The one highlight in the game was that Luke Ruter scored his 1000th point to join the Dordt 1000 point club.

Dordt snapped the short run of losses with a win over Midland Lutheran. The game was rough, physical, and sloppy, and Dordt found themselves down double digits with only minutes to go. In a



Sara Prins

Senior Bret Van Wyk takes a shot from the charity stripe to try and help the Defenders cut into Briar Cliff's five-point lead. The Defenders could not hold off Briar Cliff in a 58-64 loss. The loss dropped the Defenders to 17th in the NAIA Division II men's basketball ratings.

spirited comeback, Dordt erased the deficit to take the lead with 3.2 seconds with a Luke Ruter jumper from the wing.

"We have had a good first half of the year and now it is up to the team to respond to the challenges of being ranked 15th. We have put ourselves in position to compete for the GPAC title," said coach Greg Van Soelen.

The Defenders are currently 12-4 overall and 6-3 in the GPAC. They are also ranked 15th in the country, moving up three spots since the last poll.

The women also played some great games over the break, and also played host to the Dordt

Classic. They started off by playing Graceland University. The Lady Defenders dominated Graceland scoring the first ten points and cruising to a 70-25 victory. The following night the Lady Defenders continued their dominating ways by pounding North Central. After racing out to a 29-0 start, Dordt rolled to a 101-24 victory. The Lady Defenders were led by all-tournament pick Tara De Boer, who accumulated 20 points.

The Lady Defenders then resumed conference play by hosting Dakota Wesleyan. After losing an 11-point second half lead, the Lady Defenders found themselves down late and lost 78-75.

They then faced 4th ranked Concordia on the road. The upset bid fell just short as the Lady Defenders were unable to hold off Concordia late in the game. Amanda Eekoff led the team with 29 points, 15 rebounds, and three blocked shots.

The Lady Defenders then played Briar Cliff at home. After trailing by four at halftime, they came back to win 71-62. In the following game Midland Lutheran traveled to Sioux Center, but left in defeat. The Lady Defenders rolled throughout and won 75-56.

The Lady Defenders are currently 6-10 overall and 3-6 in the conference.

## Quick Hits

**Rachel Guthmiller**  
Sports Editor

The club has a new member. That's right, Luke Ruter, a junior from Sioux Center, has joined the ranks with some of the best basketball players that Dordt has ever seen. Ruter is the newest member of The Dordt College 1000 Point Club.

Scoring 1000 points in during a basketball career is pretty amazing--it's like getting straight A's eight semesters in a row at Dordt--only a few have done it. Many things stand in the way of scoring 1000 points--getting playing time as a freshman, scrappy defensive opponents, and of

course injuries that can end seasons and careers.

Not only has Ruter battled these barriers, but he's also had a lot of help along the way. Besides his teammates this year, which I'm sure he'd give credit to for helping to get him where he is, Ruter's had playing time with the 4th (Evan Beimers, 1999-2003; 1405 points), 5th (Eric Maas, 1998-2003; 1295 points), and 9th (Kyle Van Arendonk, 2000-2004; 1210 points) all-time leading scorers at Dordt. Ruter also has someone else in his corner--the number one all-time leading scorer at Dordt college, Greg Van Soelen, the current Defender basketball coach (1984-1988 with 3104 points).

Currently Ruter sits as the 20th all-time leading scoring with one and a half seasons left. The way I figure, if Ruter keeps up his 2003-04 scoring average of 15.9 points per game, he could jump up to the third spot (Dave Van Essen, 1991-1995, with 1560) and pushing second (Gene Hospers, 1965-1969, with 1627 points) pretty hard. But any way you look at it, Ruter (along with his teammates) is someone to keep your eye on.